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Applicant: Roger S. Hutchison
Serial No: 10/655,888
Filing Date: September 5, 2003
For: Data Storage Splitter
Enclosures: (1) Response (4 pages);
(2) Information Disclosure Statement (1 page);
(3) IDS Citation (PTO Form 1449) (1 page) & one cited reference;
(4) Acknowledgement Postcard

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Attorney Docket: DTH001.229602

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Roger S. Hutchison

: Confirmation No.: 7192

Serial No.: 10/655,888

: Examiner: D.B. Thomas

Filed: September 5, 2003

: Group Art Unit: 3723

For: **DATA STORAGE SPLITTER**

July 8, 2005

Mail Stop: *Amendment*

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated April 11, 2005, Applicant has the following comments:

Claims 1, 7, 11, and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Okuda et al., JP 06048082 ("Okuda"). The Examiner maintains that according to the English translation of the abstract, Okuda discloses that at least a part of the magnetic layer 2 of a magnetic recording card 1 is destroyed or removed by a laser device; that, for example, a plurality of grooves 3 is formed on the magnetic layer 2 of the magnetic recording card 1 by the laser device; that, as a result, a treating method for disabling regeneration of the magnetic recording card is obtained wherein many small cutting pieces and many punching pieces are not generated; that although the disclosure